

The City of Marion, South Carolina

SWAMP FOX SCENE

A FREE monthly news magazine for
the citizens and visitors of the Swamp Fox City



Volume 8, Issue 5

October 2018

With Gratitude!!

Mayor Ashley Brady, Marion City Council and City Administrator Alan Ammons would like to thank all City of Marion employees, Marion County, our local and visiting first responders, the Army National Guard and all the many other organizations and individuals that volunteered their time, working day and night, and risking their own lives to keep the City of Marion residents safe.

Thank you all for the wonderful outpouring of help, assistance, kindness, love and sacrifice that has been shown to our community. You have diligently stood with us during the storm and the emotional aftermath of Hurricane Florence, and you continue to show support as we begin to pick up the pieces. Thank you for shining such a bright light on the City of Marion during this challenging time. Special thanks to everyone who donated time, resources, food, and shelters. We are Marion County Strong and together we will recover!



Delivering supplies to Marion Shelter

Mayor Ashley Brady, city employees and congressman Tom Rice unload supplies donated by Congressman Rice at Marion Shelter. On behalf of all of us in the city of Marion, thank you for everything you do to assist us!



Some things to know:

Every disaster is different and each person has unique needs after Hurricane Florence.

- ✓ Start the recovery process by filing your homeowner's or flood insurance claims. Insurance is the most effective tool for recovery.
- ✓ Call 2-1-1 to connect with local sources of help.
- ✓ DisasterAssistance.gov connects you with federal or voluntary agency resources.

Disaster recovery is a whole community effort, which means that help can come from many different agencies and groups. If you can't return home or are unable to live in your home right now, visit DisasterAssistance.gov/get-assistance/find-assistance or call 800-621-3362 (800-462-7585 TTY) to find out which organizations can help in your community. Multilingual operators are available; press 2 for Spanish.

BEWARE of FRAUD When Seeking DISASTER ASSISTANCE

Disaster Survivor Assistance Teams and home inspectors are often sent to rural areas to help disaster survivors, but not all individuals offering assistance are who they say they are.

BEFORE YOU ENGAGE, FOLLOW THESE TIPS:
Don't take a financial hit from scams during your recovery process!

- ◆ FEMA representatives and inspectors from other agencies will always have identification.
- ◆ Do NOT give cash. Government workers never ask for a fee or payment.
- ◆ Do NOT give personally identifiable information over the phone.

If you believe you are the victim of fraud, contact the Disaster Fraud Hotline to report scams of fraud in your area.

disaster@leo.gov, National Center for Disaster Fraud, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-4909 and (866) 720-5721.

HOW TO HELP AFTER A DISASTER

Want to help people affected by Hurricane Florence? The best way to help is by donating cash to a trusted organization. Cash is flexible, allows the organization to buy what is needed right now, and helps the local and regional economy as businesses re-open. Trusted organizations will ensure your money goes to help those in need. FEMA does not transport donations, please work with a trusted organization.

You can also volunteer. Voluntary organizations are an important part of the recovery effort. Find helpful information on registering to volunteer as well as a list of groups that are helping locally at www.nvoad.org.

Do NOT travel to the affected area without first connecting with an established organization.

The after effect of Hurricane Florence

If you feel anxious, sad or frustrated, you're not alone. To talk to a specialist who can help you with your emotional health after a disaster, call @distressline at 1-800-985-5990 AND PRESS NUMBER 2, or send "talk to us" to 66746. More at: <https://www.samhsa.gov/find-help/disaster-distress-helpline>.

Who Should I call for city information?

Call City Hall, 843-423-5961, unless otherwise noted, and one of the following will be able to help you.

- Mayor Ashley Brady, (843) 992-3773
- Alan Ammons, City Administrator & Building Official, Ext. 19
- Gwendolyn Davis, City Clerk, Ext. 10
- Patricia Brown, City Treasurer, Ext. 18
- Ainsley Sanders, Administrative Assistant, Ext. 11
- Elizabeth Gray, Personnel & Purchasing Director, (843) 423-8614
- Vickie J. Nichols, Grant Writing & Publicist, Ext. 22
- Cliff Wilbanks, Recreation Director, (843) 423-5410
- Randy Brown, Maintenance Superintendent (843) 423-5961
- Winky Fore, Public Works Superintendent (843) 423-8648
- Tony Flowers, Police Chief (843) 423-8616
- Chris Smith, Captain (843) 423-8616
- Lt. Marilyn Rogers, Investigator (843) 423-8616
- Sgt. Derrick Smith, Investigator (843) 423-8616
- Trey Cooper, Fire Chief, (843) 423-8602
- Jackie Yates, Assistant Fire Chief (843) 423-8602
- Heather Evans, Municipal Court Clerk, (843) 423-8616
- Almeta Mullins, Victim Advocate / Administrative Assistant, (843) 423-8616

HOMEOWNERS BEWARE!

In an effort to put our homes and investments into order, we sometimes move quickly to expedite repairs. Please take the time to protect your property from potential persons who are unlicensed or not licensed to do the work that you are contracting. Note that although SC Law allows you to "pull the Permit"; it is strongly discouraged by those charged to serve and protect you from dishonest workers or work that is not to Code. It is always a good practice to have the contractor to "pull the Permit"; this ensures that they have the proper license(s) and that they are held accountable for adhering to the SC Code of Law.

Homeowner Responsibilities:

- Do not enter into a verbal contract
- Ensure all repairs and total is listed on the contract
- Do not give cash as payment, use a check and detail what it's for

Contractor Responsibilities:

- Having a State License and obtaining a County or City License
- Submitting a Construction Permit Application
- No permit will be issued without a contract or the proper license

South Carolina State Law

R105.1 Required: Any owner or authorized agent who intends to construct, alter, repair, move, demolish or change the occupancy of a building/structure, or to erect, install, enlarge, alter, repair, remove, convert or replace any electrical, gas, mechanical or plumbing system, the installation of which is regulated by this code, or to cause any such work to be done, shall first make application to the building official and obtain the required permit.

If you have any questions or want to check on the license status of your contractor, please feel free to contact:

Marion County Building & License Department
Ashley Robinson
Phone (843) 423-8238

City of Marion Building Official
Alan Ammons
843-423-5961

PLEASE REPORT ANYONE WHO YOU SUSPECT IS OPERATING OUTSIDE OF THE LAW

Marion Commerce 28th Annual Golf Tournament

The 28th Annual Marion Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament and Dinner was held on Wednesday, September 12th at Dusty Hills Country Club. Tournament sponsors for this year were American Waste Systems, Anderson Brothers Bank, ArborOne Farm Credit, James E. Brogdon, III, Attorney at Law, Carolinas Hospital System-Marion, First Charter Co., Inc., First Citizens Bank, Marion Self Storage, Pee Dee Electric Cooperative, Pee Dee Food Service, Robert E. Lee, Attorney at Law and Williamson Printing. Greens sponsors were Bridgers Drug Store, Gore Tire Service, Craig Martin, CPA,PA., Pee Dee Federal Savings Bank and Richardson Funeral Home.

A Captain's Choice format was played with a 1 PM shotgun start. After golf, awards were presented by Freddie Barkley and Chamber Executive Vice President Cindy Rogers. T-Roy's Restaurant catered a chicken bog dinner.

Special thanks are extended to Chamber member volunteers and sponsors for making this year's tournament and dinner a success.

Tournament Results:

1st Place (56) James Brogdon, Lucas Atkinson, Thomas Hunter, Jim McCormick.

2nd Place (57) Byron Beck, Larry McIntyre, Gordon McClellan, Glenn Greene.

3rd Place (58) Johnny Atkinson, Erwin Page, George Muldrow, Harold Herlong.

4th Place (59) Jack Weatherford, Jack Bethea, Keith Young, Brian James.

Closest to Pins: #2 Erwin Page, #7 Harold Herlong, #11 Jim McCormick, Sr., # 18 Bryon Beck.

Special Prizes:

T-Roy's Restaurant sponsored the 4th place prizes. Hulon Jewelers sponsored a diamond ring for a Hole in One on #11. This year there were no takers.

The Swamp Fox Scene is the City of Marion's Free monthly newspaper for citizens and visitor's of the Swamp Fox City, Marion, South Carolina. Printed by Herald Multiforms in Dillon, city employees produce and distribute the newspaper.

The Marion Chamber and HMRA help pay printing costs.

A PDF version is available by e-mail or online. For more information about the newspaper, call Mayor Ashley Brady or City Administrator Alan Ammons at (843) 423-5961.

Events at the Marion County Library

October 11th at 4:00 PM, the Library will be having a Kids Cooking Class at the Marion Library.

On October 25th 4:00 PM, Family Crafternoon at the Marion Library.

October 26th from 5:30 PM - 8:00 PM, Fall into Mullins Party. Food, fun and a Halloween themed movie.

All these programs are all ages, but parents need to stay with children under 10.

For more details contact Holly at the Marion County Library hevans@marion-lib.org or (843) 423-8300.

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK OCTOBER 7TH-13TH

Marion City Firefighters will be visiting schools during fire prevention week in order to reduce and prevent fire related injuries or deaths. The week of October 7-13, will be National Fire Prevention Week. This year's campaign will be **"Look. Listen. Learn. Be Aware. Fire can happen anywhere."**

The purpose of Fire Prevention weeks is to bring awareness to the risk of death in case of a fire and provide educational resources to people of all ages, races and socioeconomic status in order to keep everyone safe. Educate people about three basic but essential steps to take to reduce the likelihood of having a fire—and how to escape safely in the event of one:

LOOK

Look for places fire could start. Take a good look around your home. Identify potential fire hazards and take care of them.

LISTEN

Listen for the sound of the smoke alarm. You could have only minutes to escape safely once the smoke alarm sounds. Go to your outside meeting place, which should be a safe distance from the home and where everyone should know to meet.

LEARN

Learn two ways out of every room and make sure all doors and windows leading outside open easily and are free of clutter.

In a fire, mere seconds can mean the difference between a safe escape and a tragedy. Fire safety education isn't just for school children. Teenagers, adults, and the elderly are also at risk in fires, making it important for every member of the community to take some time every October during Fire Prevention Week to make sure they understand how to stay safe in case of a fire. While children under 5 and adults over 65 are the highest risk for injury or death in a fire, people of all ages are vulnerable. In fact, the risk of a nonfatal fire injury is highest for those between 20 and 49, showing that fire safety education is essential for everyone. Additional risk factors include race, socio-economic status, education level, and geographic location.

NFPA statistics show that the number of U.S. home fires has been steadily declining over the past few decades. However, the death rate per 1000 home fires that are reported to fire departments was 10 percent higher in 2016 than in 1980.

"These numbers show that while we've made significant progress in teaching people how to prevent fires from happening, there's still much more work to do in terms of educating the public about how to protect themselves in the event of one," said Lorraine Carli, NFPA's vice president of Outreach and Advocacy. "This is particularly critical given the increased speed at which today's home fires grow and spread."

Any questions regarding smoke detectors can be answered by contacting the City of Marion Fire Department at (843) 423-8602.

Remember you can call FEMA to begin your process of recovery!

SBA representatives at the Centers can provide information about disaster loans, answer questions and assist businesses in completing the SBA application. The Centers are located as indicated below and will operate until further notice:

Marion County, County Administration Building, Room 118, 2523 East Highway, Marion, SC. Opens: Tuesday, Sept. 25 at 12:00 noon
Hours: Weekdays, 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Closed: Saturdays and Sundays.

Horry County, Conway Chamber of Commerce, 203 Main St, Conway, SC 29526. Opens: Wednesday, Sept. 26 at 12:00 noon
Hours: Weekdays, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Saturdays, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Closed: Sundays.

To be considered for all forms of disaster assistance, applicants should register online at DisasterAssistance.gov or download the FEMA mobile app. If online or mobile access is unavailable, applicants should call the FEMA toll-free helpline at 800-621-3362. Those who use 711-Relay or Video Relay Services should call 800-621-3362

Additional details on the locations of Disaster Recovery Centers and the loan application process can be obtained by calling the SBA Customer Service Center at 800-659-2955 (800-877-8339 for the deaf and hard-of-hearing) or by sending an e-mail to disastercustomerservice@sba.gov

Jackie Yates is employee of the Month



The City of Marion is pleased to announce Assistant Chief Jackie Yates as its August 2018 Employee of the Month. Yates has been a full-time employee with the

City of Marion Fire Department since March 2016 and a dedicated volunteer firefighter and member of the Marion Rescue Squad for many years. As Fire Education Officer and Assistant Chief, he brings a lot of knowledge and experience with him to profession. Yates has a passion for public education and teaching children about fire safety. He is known for his high standard of performance and friendly smile.

"Jackie Yates is a great employee and asset to the City of Marion Fire Department," said Chief Trey Cooper, adding that the longtime firefighter is as always courteous and helpful to others. "Assistant Chief Yates is highly respected by his peers and appreciated by the community because of the way he treats others."

Mayor Ashley Brady and Marion City Council recognized Assistant Chief Jackie Yates for his dedication and contributions to the City of Marion at the September 11th Council Meeting.



Each month there is a Marion Foodie meeting and a Marion Film Club meeting, sponsored by the Arts Council of Marion County Randy Floyd at (843) 992-1627 or email floydrandy@hotmail.com for information.

Important information.

Citizens may call the Marion County EOC information line for automated information at: 1-843-275-6087 concerning flooding.

Wednesday, October 3rd....

8:30 a.m.. **Rise and Shine**, Marion School District Office, 719 N. Main Street. Everyone is invited.

Sunday - Saturday, October 7th - 13th....

Fire Prevention Week, This year's campaign **"Look. Listen. Learn. Be Aware. Fire Can Happen Anywhere."**

Tuesday, October 9th.....

6:30 p.m. City Council Meeting, Council Chambers.

Tuesday, October 11th..... 9:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m. CPR classes.

Marion Fire Department located on 109 E. Bond Street, Marion.

Monday - Friday, October 15th - 19th....

7:00 p.m. **Marion County Youth Revival**. Marion Opera House. For more information email mrvnhemingway@yahoo.com or call (843) 430-8131.

Saturday, October 20th....

11:30 a.m. **Stop the Bullying / Stop the Violence March**. CD Joyner Auditorium. For more information email mrvnhemingway@yahoo.com or call (843) 430-8131.

Thursday, October 25th..... 6:00 p.m. HMRA & Marion Chamber of Commerce presents **Halloween Movie Night** at the Main Street Commons. **Free admission.**

Saturday, October 27th..... 12:00 p.m. Mullins Chamber of Commerce announces **Crusie, Shuck & Shag**. For details please call Michele C. Rogers, (843) 464-6651 or email www.mullinschamber.com.

.....**CITY NEWS**.....

Marion Chamber of Commerce announces Yard of the Month



Isabella Moody of 505 Henry McGill Street has been awarded the Marion Chamber of Commerce Yard of the Month for September 2018. The Chamber is proud to recognize those in our community that work so diligently, and add so much to our community's unique character. Ms. Moody will receive a Marion Chamber of Commerce Chamber Check in recognition of this honor.

IN APPRECIATION

During the September 11th City Council meeting, Mayor Ashley Brady and Marion City Council presented a Resolution of Appreciation to Dr. James L. Suggs, a longtime provider at the Marion Medical Group, for 52 years of faithful service in providing outstanding healthcare to the citizens of Marion County.



A-TEAM NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH
“We Are Our Neighbors’ Keepers”

By: Dolly Boyer

I am writing this as Hurricane Florence is headed toward Marion. Hopefully by the time you all read this, we will have dried out and have had power restored. I sincerely hope Marion and all her citizens will have weathered Florence safely. This time of year is not just for hurricanes. It is also the time for Halloween. Trick or Treating will be on October 31st from 6 PM until 8 PM. The following are safety tips to keep everyone safe:

1. Cross the street at corners, using signals and crosswalks.
2. Look left, right and left again when crossing and keep looking as you cross.
3. Put electronic devices down and keep heads up as you walk.
4. Walk across streets, don't run.
5. Teach children to make eye contact with drivers before crossing in front of them.
6. Always walk on sidewalks or paths. If there are no sidewalks, walk facing traffic as far to the left as possible. Children should walk on direct routes with the fewest street crossings.
7. Watch for cars that are turning or backing up. Teach children to never dart out into the street or cross between parked cars.
8. Children should be accompanied by an adult.
9. Decorate costumes and bags with reflective tape or stickers.
10. Choose face paint and makeup instead of masks.
11. Have kids carry glow sticks or flashlights.
12. Pedestrians and drivers should remain alert and expect the unexpected.

Happy Fall Ya'll and Safe Trick or Treating!! A-Team meets the first Monday of the month @ 6:30 PM in the meeting room of the firehouse on E Bond St. The public is always welcome to join us and learn how to make Marion safer. For more information call Dolly @ 843-433-0941.



Don't forget Daylight Savings Ends November 3rd at midnight. Fall back an hour. Remember to change smoke detectors batteries.

HMRA & Marion Chamber of Commerce

HALLOWEEN MOVIE NIGHT

FREE ADMISSION

ENTER 6 PM AT YOUR OWN RISK

MOVIE STARTS AT DUSK

October, 25th

MAIN STREET COMMONS

Giving back to the Community



Mayor Ashley Brady and Marion City Council presented a Resolution of Appreciation to Mr. Jackie Hulon in recognition of 50 years of faithful service. Mr. Hulon gives back to the people of Marion, and is grateful to be in such a loyal community who keeps his business alive. He enjoys his work and serving the people.

Important information.

Citizens may call the Marion County EOC information line for automated information at: 1-843-275-6087 .

Carolina Marion Senior Circle

The new date for our Senior Circle 2 Year Anniversary is **Thursday, November 1st**.

If you purchased a ticket previously for the initial date, your seat is still reserved .